

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 03039 061920Z

44

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, JM

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY OF JAMAICA FORMED

REF: KINGSTON A-1 OF JANUARY 8, 1975

1. A NEW POLITICAL PARTY DESCRIBING ITSELF AS THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF JAMAICA WAS LAUNCHED AT A MEETING AUGUST 1 IN KINGSTON. ACCORDING TO A PRESS RELEASE ISSUED OVER THE SIGNATURE OF MR. CHRIS LAWRENCE, FIRST SECRETARY, THE INAUGURAL MEETING ADOPTED THE PARTY RULES AND OBJECTIVES, A PROGRAM FOR THE ENSUING 12 MONTHS, AND A STATEMENT OF PARTY POLICY.

2. HOWEVER, NO DETAILS OF OBJECTIVES OR POLICY WERE DISCLOSED, EXCEPT FOR A STATEMENT REJECTING "THE BOURGEOIS TACTICS" OF THE RULING CLASS AND FASCIST UTTERANCES FROM ITS AGENTS TO "TURN BACK SOCIALISM".

3. THE MEETING EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE COMMUNIQUE SIGNED JULY 19 BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTERS OF JAMAICA AND CUBA AND THE DECLARATION ARISING OUT OF THE RECENT CONGRESS OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES.

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4. THE RELEASE SAID MESSAGES OF SOLIDARITY WERE

RECEIVED FROM THE COMMUNIST PARTIES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND CANADA, THE WORKERS LIBERATION MOVEMENT OF QUEBEC, THE WEST INDIES SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE, LONDON, "PROGRESSIVE AND REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS" IN JAMAICA AND THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CARIBBEAN ANTI-IMPERIALIST FRONT.

5. A 14-MEMBER ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN SET UP TO GUIDE THE PARTY UNTIL THE FIRST CONGRESS ON AUGUST 1, 1976. CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY IS MR. HERBERT GEORGE SINCLAIR.

6. COMMENT: LAWRENCE AND SINCLAIR ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE "OLD LEFT" IN JAMAICA, AND ARE BELIEVED TO BE MOSCOW-ORIENTED IN THEIR MARXISM. WHILE THEY HAVE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE YOUNGER MARXISTS ON THE ISLAND, THE EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT THE YOUNGER SET WOULD BE WILLING TO ACKNOWLEDGE THEM AS THEIR LEADERS. WHETHER THE NEW JAMAICAN CP HAS ANY CHANCE OF BECOMING A SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL FORCE WILL LARGELY DEPEND ON THE REACTION OF TREVOR MUNROE, LEADER OF THE WORKERS' LIBERATION LEAGUE (WLL). MONROE PUBLICLY STATED LAST DECEMBER AT THE ORGANIZING MEETING OF THE WLL (REFAIR) THAT WHILE HIS ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE WAS THE CREATION OF A MARXIST-L ENINIST PARTY OF THE WORKING CLASS, HE FELT THAT SEVERAL YEARS OF PRELIMINARY WORK (EDUCATION, AGITATION, ETC.) WOULD BE NECESSARY BEFORE A VIABLE PARTY COULD BE FORMED.
GERARD

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